

Message Text

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13-12

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-10 ERDA-07 AF-06 ARA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 EA-09 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NASA-02

NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-02 PRS-01

OES-05 SS-15 USIA-15 SAJ-01 /141 W

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FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3939

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION GENEVA

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FOR ACDA AND IO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM, UN,UR

SUBJECT: UNGA DISARMAMENT: SOVIET STATEMENT ON MILITARY EXPENDITURES LIMITATION (MEL) STUDY

1. FOLLOWING IS AN EXCERPT FROM STATEMENT BY ROSHCHIN (USSR) IN FIRST COMMITTEE DISARMAMENT DEBATE NOVEMBER 10. THE EXCERPT CONTAINS FIRST PUBLIC SOVIET RESPONSE TO U.S. PROPOSAL AT CCD CONCERNING A STUDY OF ISSUES INVOLVED IN DEFINITION AND COMPARATIVE MEASUREMENT OF MILITARY EXPENDITURES.

2. BEGIN TEXT. AMONG THE DISARMAMENT QUESTIONS, CONSIDERABLE SIGNIFICANCE ATTACHES TO THE TASK OF IMPLEMENTING THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S RECOMMENDATION ON THE REDUCTION OF THE MILITARY BUDGETS OF THE FIVE PERMANENT MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL BY 10 PERCENT AND THE UTILIZATION OF PART OF THE FUNDS THUS SAVED TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. TAKING SUCH A MEASURE WOULD REPRESENT AN IMPORTANT STEP TOWARDS LIMITING THE ARMS RACE, AND THAT UNCLASSIFIED

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WOULD VERY SUBSTANTIALLY FACILITATE THE ECONOMIC AND

SOCIAL PROGRESS OF ALL COUNTRIES, INCLUDING THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. SUCH A STEP WOULD HAVE A POSITIVE EFFECT ON THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION AS A WHOLE AND WOULD PROMOTE THE FURTHER EASING OF TENSION IN THE WORLD. THE SOVIET UNION HAS ALREADY STATED ITS READINESS TO AGREE TO SUCH A MEASURE IF ALL THE OTHER PERMANENT MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL ARE EQUALLY READY TO DO SO.

A CONCRETE DISARMAMENT MEASURE, THE REDUCTION OF THE MILITARY BUDGETS OF THE FIVE POWERS WHO ARE THE PERMANENT MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL, CANNOT BE REPLACED BY VARIOUS FORMS OF TECHNICAL RESEARCH INTO THE COMPARATIVE STRUCTURES OF MILITARY BUDGETS, BY STUDYING THE IDEA OF THEIR STANDARDIZATION OR BY DETERMINING WHAT IS A MILITARY BUDGET, AND SO ON. AND WE WOULD POINT OUT WITH REGRET THAT IN THE HISTORY AND PRACTICE OF CONSIDERING PROBLEMS OF DISARMAMENT, WE HAVE QUITE OFTEN SEEN INSTANCES IN WHICH THE TAKING OF A SPECIFIC STEP HAS BEEN REPLACED BY VARIOUS KINDS OF TRUMPED-UP RESEARCH WORK WHICH DOES NOT ADVANCE THE CAUSE OF DISARMAMENT ONE INCH, WHICH SIMPLY DIVERTS ATTENTION FROM THE SOLUTION OF ANY GIVEN PRACTICAL TASK IN THE FIELD OF DISARMAMENT AND SERVES AS A KIND OF SMOKESCREEN TO COVER UP RELUCTANCE NOT ONLY TO DISARM BUT ALSO TO TAKE PARTICAL DISARMAMENT MEASURES.

MOREOVER, IN CERTAIN DEVELOPED AND,UNFORTUNATELY, IN CERTAIN DEVELOPING STATES, TOO,AN ACTIVE ASCALATION OF MILITARY BUDGETS IS TAKING PLACE. MINISTRIES OF DEFENCE ARE MAKING TREMENDOUS EFFORTS TO URGE THE LEGISLATIVE BODIES TO MAKE EVEN LARGER APPROPRIATIONS FOR SWELLING MILITARY BUDGETS. THE SOVIET UNION CONSIDERS THAT THE TREND SHOULD BE QUITE THE REVERSE: MEASURES MUST BE TAKEN TO IMPLEMENT TH DECISIONS OF THE TWENTY-EIGHT SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY WITH REGARD TO THE REDUCTION OF THE MILITARY EXPENDITURES OF THE PERMANENT MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL....

END TEXT.

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